

The new members of the Association are Miss Disbrey and Miss M. Hall.

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Subscriptions of Members ..	9	3 0	July, 1896; Jan., 1897..	12	2 6
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dents	1	0 0			
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	12	2 6		12	2 6

B. E. FAGAN, Treasurer.

School House, Uppingham.
June 17th.

NOTES ON OLD STUDENTS.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the loss of one of our number. Miss Rose Leney passed away at the end of April. In her we have lost one of our most earnest workers, and one to whom P.N.E.U. principles were a living and inspiring force. By those of her own year she was looked up to and loved; by those who saw her only once or twice she was recognised as one of the mainstays of our Association; living as she did in London we looked to her as one whose influence for good could and would be felt by many. As one of the officers of the Association her loss is very great. As a body we offer our deepest sympathy to her bereaved family.

We have to welcome our first "niece." On March 30th, at Banstead Road, Ewell, was born Joyce Hepworth Lamb. The wishes of all will be that this little one may grow up to bless the training her mother received at Ambleside.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR,

I have been requested to write a few words to the members of the Students' Association about the P.N.E.U. generally and about the Conference in particular. I can only touch upon the subject, and that very inadequately, though I am glad to be able to do what I can.

I wish all students, past and present, could have been at the Conference meetings, but of course as this was practically impossible, except in one or two cases, perhaps those who were not present will be glad of such details as I can give them. It has seemed to me sometimes that the ex-students hardly realise to what a large and ever-growing body of workers they belong, and *belong* too in quite a particular and peculiar manner by virtue of their training at the House of Education, and by the direct inheritance of the principles and ideals held by the Union which they above all others have to put into daily and hourly practice. I have no hesitation in saying that it is to those students who have left Ambleside that those who are most anxious and eager for the progress of the P.N.E.U. must look for enthusiasm and support.

The Conference has on all sides been pronounced an undoubted success, and has made those who were able to attend realise more fully than they could otherwise have done, that the Union possesses within itself a deep-rooted vitality which enables it to spread downwards and outwards in all directions. The variety of the subjects discussed, the large attendances at all the meetings, and the keen interest displayed, alone prove this, and many of those who were present must have left with the feeling that the Union is worth working for, and have found themselves fired with fresh enthusiasm for the work, and filled with many plans and schemes for extending its influence in every way.

The papers read at the Conference will appear in the *Review*, and I am sure that after reading them the students too will feel that they are not members of a society consisting of a few

isolated parents and teachers, but of a corporate, organized body, with definite principles to uphold and definite objects to strive for, a body that is making itself felt as a power, and that is doing excellent and useful work.

It is difficult to know how to make the students grasp the fact that they are a part of this whole, though the Association must be of the utmost value in keeping them in touch with each other. I should like to suggest that all students living in neighbourhoods where branches of the Union have been already established should make themselves known *personally* to the Local Secretary, who in every case, I am quite confident, would be only too glad of any help and sympathy they may be able to give. I need scarcely say that I am always pleased to hear from any of the students, or, better still, to see them at the office, whenever they can come in, when we may be of great mutual assistance to each other.

The Library, which is now assuming quite large proportions, is free to all students as members of the Union, and I should advise all to provide themselves with catalogues (price 4d.), as I cannot but think that the books may be of real benefit and help to them in their work.

In conclusion, I would ask all the students to study the Annual Report lately issued. By comparing it with the report of 1896, it is very evident that the Union has considerably enlarged its borders. At the end of last year there were 23 established branches; there are now 33 in full working order, and about 20 in various stages of formation, and the actual number of members has increased by about 500 during the year. This makes the future outlook very hopeful, and gives sure encouragement for even greater efforts. In these efforts I am convinced the members of the Students' Association will not be lacking in either interest or sympathy. I realise keenly that I have very poorly expressed what I desired to say, but you must take the will for the deed, dear Editor, and

Believe me to be,

Yours very sincerely,

FRANCES BLOGG.

DEAR EDITOR,

It is a pity that Mrs. Steintal's pupils, when they pass the age of 16, should run the risk of inferior teaching outside the P.N.E.U. Readers may have seen Miss E. Stewart Wood's recent exhibition in *Pall Mall* or some of her yearly contributions to the Academy. She is in thorough sympathy with Mrs. Steintal, and is prepared to teach an advanced class, the germ of which has existed, apart from the P.N.E.U., for some years. Six shillings per term (one shilling per month) entitles members to one still-life subject per month from November to April, and one landscape subject per month from May to October. These subjects are now issued in the *Parents' Review*, sub. "Our Work," but I enter the one for next July here, in order to show how scope is given for various minds under varying conditions; and how, at the same time, limits are suggested in order to prevent the waste of effort and the disappointment which occur when latitude is left to inexperience.

Subject for July, 1897:

"The moon is up, but yet it is not night."

A rare moment in the day's loveliness which must be carefully watched for. The trees (if attempted) are all aglow with gold and red, the low sun shining on them. The sky opposite the sunset is still blue, and, where nearest the horizon, of a warm pink fading into grey. The ground is illumined. The painter may choose his details.

All work marked "for exhibition" is criticized by Mr. D. Murray, A.R.A., on the yearly "Pupil's Show Day" in Miss E. S. Wood's London Studio at 44, Holland Street, Kensington. She is at home here to all members who may visit town during the winter. Every spring takes pupils into the country for weeks of out-door lessons.

Extra courses of special subjects (viz.: perspective and cloud-form during this summer) are to be had at 3/- the course (6d. per month). Particulars are circulated in the portfolio, which latter members may only detain one night (unless Sunday intervenes) under pain of 6d. fine. This fine is also imposed for failure to send in work, or for sending it in *after* the 23rd of each month to Miss Wood—also for damaging or failing to return books, casts (of which a loan list is in the portfolio), and studies. These fines help to defray postal expenses of critic and secretary

(Miss G. T. Davison, 41, Bessborough Gardens, S.W.). These expenses are especially heavy in June, when the year's work of each Student is returned.

The name and address of contributor must be written on the back of each study and paper placed over the face for protection and writing of criticism. Oil Students are requested to use thin French canvas (Young, Gower Street, 2/- per yard,) to reduce postage. For same purpose no mountings or stretchers are allowed. Any member who does three subjects monthly for three consecutive months may apply to the critic for a study to copy, the piece being chosen with a view to correct that member's particular failings.

Full particulars are given to tempt new members to join at once.

Yours truly,

E. H. JEBB.

SCALE HOW,

AMBLESIDE,

June, 1897.

DEAR EDITOR,

Since our last letter was written to the Magazine, many interesting events have occurred which no doubt you will be glad to hear. To begin with, the nine seniors looked forward with mingled feelings to the reassembling, regretting not being able to welcome some old students, and anticipating the pleasure of meeting the new-comers.

Work went on very steadily until our old enemy, the influenza, attacked the juniors. In consequence of this we had a fortnight's holiday, during which time every one gained her usual health and strength. Miss Mason came back to us greatly renewed in bodily strength after having spent her holiday at Seascale. The few who remained at Ambleside gladly welcomed three old students who came and were lodging in the town. One old face is missing from amongst us this term—our housekeeper, Mrs. Darby, left us; her place is now filled by Miss Gravett. It ought to have been said before this that Miss Harcourt's position is now filled by Fräulein Diez, who is undertaking our entire musical training, Miss Sumner

having retired. We are now entitled to have a private piano-forte lesson in addition to our regular practice.

A new institution is now in force—that of a half-term holiday. Last term some of us spent that day in a most exciting way. We had a char-a-banc and drove to Wythburn, three of us making a vanguard on cycles. The day began very well, but when we arrived at our destination it was blowing a "mighty" wind. After lunch, the wind had grown to a hurricane, and the brow of Helvellyn was clothed with sleet and hail. Never before have we been out in such a terrific storm, and the cyclists drenched to the skin (and one quite overcome with cramp) were obliged to take a cab at Grasmere.

Now we must tell you about more recent events. Mr. and Mrs. Perrin were staying with Miss Mason for a few days. Mrs. Perrin was kind enough to show us her beautiful paintings, and also gave us some invaluable hints on flower painting. We are hoping to possess a set when her beautiful drawings are published. After they left, the house was very busy preparing for the annual visit of our "dear lady visitor," Mrs. Dallas Yorke. Songs were practised, charades were rehearsed, and every possible moment was snatched for making costumes or other things for the contemplated festivities. At last the day arrived, and, as fortune favours the brave, the weather was beautiful. All the morning lessons were given before Mrs. Yorke, and directly after dinner decorations began. We had a bountiful supply of flags in honour of the Jubilee, which gave a very pretty effect. At 4 p.m. visitors began to arrive, and tea was served in front of "the steps." After tea, a study of Wordsworth was given, suitably illustrated by recitations and songs. Several interesting items followed, among which was a dialogue entitled, "Original Sin in the Nursery," which was charmingly given. The final item on the programme was a charade on the word "Jubilee," which closed with a costume procession taken from Rudyard Kipling's "Seven Seas," followed by the National Anthem. We all spent a pleasant day, and heard from all sides that our efforts had been successful. On Sunday afternoon, Mrs. Yorke talked to us under the "beech tree," which we enjoyed very much.

Mrs. Franklin has just left us, after having spent a few days here. For one of the ordinary lectures she gave us a charming talk on the P.N.E.U.

The father of one of the girls in the Practising School, who is very much interested in the House of Education, has very kindly

presented a microscope to the students. We feel very grateful, as it supplies a long-felt want.

With every good wish,

We are, your sincere friends,

THE STUDENTS.

DEAR EDITOR,

All those who were at Ambleside when Miss White, Head Mistress of the Training College, Edinburgh, came to Scale How, may be interested to hear of a visit I paid to the College and the High School last February. On arriving there, I was taken to the students' classroom, where were assembled about twenty students waiting to criticise an English history lesson. It all reminded me very much of Ambleside, only I may add that the criticisms were not at all severe. Miss White then kindly took me over the High School, which seems to be carried on on delightful lines—no marks, and a certain time allowed for preparation, and it is understood to be a breach of honour to take longer. Miss White showed me the students' sitting room, a cosy place, and on the walls of which is a photograph of each year of students. Miss White told me the training was for a year, the students not, however, living at the college but coming every day. Their hours are from nine to one, which time is filled up by criticism lessons, non-criticism lessons, lectures on psychology, etc., in fact the work is very similar to that of the morning at Scale How. The students give lessons at different schools in the neighbourhood, and I heard that each lesson must have "a moral aim." Afterwards, Miss White lectured on the sense of touch. It was extremely interesting.

Yours truly,

E. G. C.

DEAR EDITOR,

A very brief account of the delightful "At Home," so kindly arranged by Mrs. Franklin, to enable all Students who were able to meet Miss Mason during the week of the Conference will, no doubt, be interesting to those who could not be present. Probably most of us on some occasion have been to 8, Pembroke Gardens—always so closely connected with P.N.E.U. work in London, and

those who were fortunate enough to avail themselves of the opportunity given last week wended their way thither about 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening. I happened to be one of the members, and Mrs. Ker, whose little girl Miss Bingham teaches, very kindly offered me to stay the night at her house, which I enjoyed very much.

Miss Bingham and I went together to the place of meeting, where we were received by Mrs. Franklin and Miss Mason, and needless to say we spent a most delightful evening. Amongst others present were Miss Williams, Miss Blogg, and Miss Hart Davis, and of ourselves, Misses Barnett, Beveridge, Watson, Flower, Frost, Reneau, and Condor, also Mr. Rooper and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Perrin.

Miss Mason managed to spare a few minutes for each of us, which was what we prized more than anything else, and the time quickly passed away in talking over past and present experiences, etc. Eleven o'clock came all too soon, and we reluctantly said good-night in order to wend our way homewards, many, no doubt, sitting up late, as Miss Bingham and I did to talk over all we had heard and seen.

On Thursday we had a small Students' Meeting, at which only a few were present, and in the short time at our disposal not much could be accomplished.

We decided to give some flowers to Mrs. Franklin on Thursday evening, as an expression of our best thanks for all her kindness.

My leave of absence was too short to allow of my attending the ordinary meetings of the Conference, of which no doubt you will learn much from others.

M. W. KITCHING.

DEAR EDITOR,

I wonder if the readers of our Magazine are acquainted with a delightful little monthly paper called *The Message*. It is essentially for teachers, and contains many excellent "Notes on Lessons,"—Old Testament, Catechism, and Church Teaching, etc. The latter I have found most useful and helpful, as the different seasons are treated as they occur in order, *i.e.* Advent, Xmas, etc. I find the children are intensely interested, not only in learning the different colours of Altar Cloths, Stoles and Bookmarkers (*when* used in Church and *why*), but in observing the seasons in

a really practical manner. Although *The Message* is strictly Educational, all the papers are not on Church subjects. *The Message* can be obtained from J. Parker & Co., 27, Broad St., Oxford,—for the sum of 1/6 yearly—post free. It is yet in its infancy, as the first number was only brought out in October, 1896.

E. F.

DEAR EDITOR,

Have any of your readers tried a small aquarium filled with pond-life? My pupil and I went to the nearest ditch in early spring, and by means of a jam-bottle, with a string attached to the neck, brought up a fine haul of frogs' spawn, with other minute creatures about, too numerous to mention. This was more than two months ago, and our interesting little colony still flourishes, replenished from time to time by freshwater and weeds from the ditch. The Tadpoles are giving outward and visible signs of their future state of being, while Water-mites, Fleas, Cyclops, and other creatures, have considerably developed their powers.

There are a large number of creatures in the water whose names I do not even know, and any information on the subject would be acceptable, as of course they must be common denizens of pond-water. Sometimes we capture one or two of the creatures with a small ladle and examine them under the microscope, when all sorts of marvels are revealed.

A short time since we put some of our specimens into bottles, and took them to illustrate an address to some Band of Hope children; their delight at seeing creatures of whose existence they were totally ignorant was unbounded.

M. W. KITCHING.

DEAR EDITOR,

I feel I owe an apology to our President for having made use of a word we coined in the long-ago days when I was at Ambleside. "Masonic" then designated to us all that was most worthy of being aimed at, but I see that I did wrong in using it in print, and in connection with what I much regret to find was only a "travesty" of P.N.E.U. principles.

Yours sincerely,

B. E. F.